

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 00665 060901Z

14-11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PER-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /044 W

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P R 060810Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7592

INFO AMEMBASQY ALLRERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0665

DEPT PASS ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS EXCEPT DAR ES SALAAM

BLANTYRE ALSO FOR DEPUTY ASS'T SEC'Y JAMES

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU

SUBJECT: DAVIS NOMINATION

REF.: STATE 46137; STATE 46714

1. DURING CALL BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JAMES ON JUNIOR MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SEPETU MARCH 5, I RAISED QUESTION OF STORY CIRCULATED AT OAU MEETING IN ADDIS ABABA THAT DAVIS HAD BEEN DENIED AGREEMENT BY NIGERIA AND/OR OTHER AFRICAN STATES. IN ACCORDANCE REFTELS I DENIED STORY CATEGORICALLY, STATING THAT AMBASSADOR DAVIS HAD NEVER BEEN NOMINATED TO ANY AMBASSADORIAL POST IN AFRICA AND NO SUCH NOMINATION HAD EVER BEEN DISCUSSED WITH ANY AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. I ALSO POINTED OUT

THAT US CONGRESS, IN ITS DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS OF EVENTS IN CHILE DURING PERIOD AMBASSADOR DAVIS SERVED
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00665 060901Z

THERE, HAD FOUND NO SUGGESTION THAT HE HAD ENGAGED IN ANY IMPROPER ACTIVITY, AND I DESCRIBED HIS EMINENT QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION TO WHICH HE NOW NOMINATED. I CONCLUDED BY SAYING OAU RESOLUTION COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED AN INTRUSION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED STATES, NOTING THAT TANZANIA WOULD BE DEEPLY RESENTFUL IF THE USG SHOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, PUBLICLY CRITICIZED THE NOMINATION OF A TANZANIAN JUNIOR MINISTER AND THAT THE RESOLUTION SHOULD BE VIEWED AS AN OAU MATTER (IMPLYING THAT, THEREFORE, INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS COULD NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR IT) AND THAT

ONE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THE US WAS A BIG AND POWERFUL COUNTRY. I REMINDED SEPETU THAT THOUGH IT MIGHT BE AN OAU MATTER, INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES PRESENT, WHICH INCLUDED TANZANIA, NEVERTHELESS HAD TO VOTE. BERNARD MUGANDA, EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS CHIEF AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO WAS PRESENT AND WHO HAS BEEN AT THE ADDIS MEETING, REMARKED THAT THE RESOLUTION ON DAVIS HAD BEEN ADOPTED BY ACCLAMATION AS THE SENSE OF THE MEETING, AND THAT NO VOTE HAD ACTUALLY TAKEN PLACE.

3. SEPETU, SEEMING UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT THE WHOLE TOPIC, REMARKED AGAIN THAT IT WAS AN OAU RESOLUTION AND ONLY INTENDED AS AN EXPRESSION OF CONCERN. HE SAID MY EXPLANATION MIGHT HELP TO "CLEAR THE AIR" AND SAID THAT THE AFFAIR SHOULD "NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH OUR RELATIONS." (I RAISED SAME SUBJECT MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 3, WITH JOAN WICKEN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT NYERERE, MAKING SAME POINTS, AND SHE LABELED OAU/DAVIS RESOLUTION "AN SJF MISTAKE".)

4. COMMENT: THOUGH WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT TANGOV, AT VERY LEAST, SYMPATHIZED WITH OAU RESOLUTION, SEPETU'S REMARKS AND ATTITUDE SUGGEST THAT IT NOT LIKELY TO EXPRESS ANY FURTHER VIEWS THIS MATTER.
CARTER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.
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